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**FIGHT AGAINST WA
INSURANCE CERTA**

Last Ditch.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.
WASHINGTON, AUG. 17.—Old line grabbers are prepared to resist to the last ditch the enactment of a solid sailors' war insurance law which would eliminate the pension system. The opposition to the bill was clearly conveyed by Chairman Adamson of the House

merce Committee to-day when hearings were opened on the Administration Insurance bill.

Representative Key, Ohio, announced himself in opposition to the plan, was told by Judge Adamson to file contentions in the form of a brief desired.

Secretary McAdoo, Judge Julian of Chicago, author of the bill, and

uel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, appeared to support of the bill. One of their principal contentions was that its enactment would obviate the necessity for continuation of the old pension system, which has grown up from the Revolutionary through all of our wars.

Representatives of big insurance companies opposed the bill nominally on the ground that it would operate against the poor man in the army who could not pay the charge of \$8 a thousand a

for the insurance offered by the Government. Mr. Gompers said opposite the floor of Congress would come in from members who have profited politically in their districts through ability to dispense pension benefits to their political friends.

employees of the United States should be compensated as such," Gompers said. "They should not have their pensions at the pleasure of Congress. Pensions too long have been dependent upon kisses and favors from a political party in power." He also said that Presidential elections had been swayed by pension elections.

George E. Ide, chairman of the insurance committee appointed by Secretary McAdoo to make a report on Administration bill, told the committee and his colleagues favored the

ciple of compensation and independence for soldiers and sailors, but they should be known in advance so that it could be made a part of the enlisted man's contract. He urged care in the preparation of the plan, and a methodical and economic administration."

Mr. Ide urged that nothing but

business principles he incorporated the measure, and argued for the elimination of every provision, "which, although theoretically desirable, is practically doubtful value." He opposed that provision which allows the United States under certain conditions to grant insurance against the death or total disability of officers and enlisted men any multiple of \$500, in amounts less than \$1,000 or more than \$2,000 upon payment of premiums as provided in the bill.

AMSTERDAM, AUG. 17.—The *Lokal Anzeiger* learns that Gen. *ner*, head of the Department of *tions*, intends to take over a cor on the front. He will be replaced War Department by Gen. *Scheuch*

A black and white aerial photograph of a city, likely New York City, showing a dense urban landscape with a river and a bridge.



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